

Date: October 21, 2004

To: Chairman Randolph and Commissioners Blair, Downey, Karlan and Knox

From: Mark Krausse, Executive Director

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This is a summary of administrative activity and other matters since the report sent to you prior to the last Commission meeting.

A. PERSONNEL

Theis Finlev will be the Commission's Executive Fellow for the 2004-05 term, assisting with press and legislation as past Fellows have done. Theis (pronounced "Tice") was born in Denmark, moved to San Francisco at the age of 9, and received degrees from U.C. Santa Cruz and the London School of Economics. He has worked on a Congressional campaign, for a Member of the UK Parliament, and for an English-language newspaper in Chile.

Commission Business Services Assistant Caterina Gipson has taken a position with the State of California Department of Fish and Game, to begin work on November 1st. Caterina has been one of the "faces of the agency" at the reception area for many years, and we and the public will miss her welcoming smile and enthusiasm. We wish her well in her new role.

Legal Division analyst Kelly Winsor has taken a position with the State of California Board of Prison Terms, to begin on November 1st. We thank Kelly for her several years of service in regulations and litigation, and wish her well in her new position.

B. STAFF PROJECTS

The Executive Staff met off site in mid-October to discuss general management issues and projects for the coming year. Continued sharing of personnel resources in light of budget reductions, legislative proposals for 2005, and an update on information technology projects were among the topics on the agenda. Perhaps the most noteworthy issue on which consensus was reached was a shift to business-casual attire on a daily basis. Commission meetings and other days that are likely to involve public contact will still require business attire.

The Public Education Unit is planning the December issue of the FPPC Bulletin. The Bulletin's e-mail subscription list has now grown to over 1,000 subscribers. PEU is also participating on the Awards Committee of the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL) nominating award-winners at the 2004 San Francisco Convention, and developing improvements for the FPPC's website.

Technical Assistance has had no outreaches or trainings since the October Commission meeting, but has been receiving an incredible volume of calls in advance of the two pre-election filing deadlines. One day saw well over 200 calls, and the daily average has consistently been over 100.

The Legal Division is handling a higher volume of campaign-related advice requests as we approach the general election.

C. APPROVAL OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODES/AMENDMENTS

Since the last Commission meeting, the agency has approved the following codes/amendments:

Dos Palos-Oro Loma Joint Unified School District
East Bay Municipal Utilities District
Electricity Oversight Board, State of California
Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
Motor Vehicles, State of California Department of

D. FINDINGS OF PROBABLE CAUSE

Pursuant to regulation 18361, I have found evidence in the following cases sufficient to lead a person of ordinary caution and prudence to believe or entertain a strong suspicion that the following respondents committed or caused a violation of the Political Reform Act. **This finding of probable cause does not constitute a finding that a violation has actually occurred. The respondents are presumed to be innocent of any violation of the Act unless a violation is proved in a subsequent proceeding.**

There were none.

E. REQUESTS FOR EXTENSION OF COMMITTEE TERMINATION

Pursuant to regulation 18404.1, campaign committees facing termination by December 31, 2002, who desire an extension of that deadline, must submit a request to the Executive Director by December 1, 2002. Since my last report to the Commission, I have responded to the following requests:

Jim Rogers for Assembly. A third request for extension was approved, for a six-month period.

Russ Bogh for Assembly. A third request for extension was approved, for a six-month period.

Friends of Alexandra Gallardo-Rooker. Chairman Randolph denied committee's appeal of Executive Director's denial on the bases that request 1) was made four months after the committee was required to terminate, and 2) failed to provide "evidence supporting any of the factors set forth" in the committee termination regulation (18404.1).

Friends of Pedro Carillo. Chairman Randolph denied committee's appeal of Executive Director's denial on the bases that request 1) was made four months after the committee was required to terminate, and 2) failed to provide "evidence supporting any of the factors set forth" in the committee termination regulation (18404.1).

Friends of Tom Umberg. Chairman approved committee's appeal of Executive Director's denial on the bases that it 1) was made four months after the committee was required to terminate, and 2) failed to provide "evidence supporting any of the factors set forth" in the committee termination regulation (18404.1). The Chairman found good cause to extend the Umberg committee's deadline for termination based on the fact that the candidate is absent from the state on active military duty.